

## Christmas Gifts

Which Would Be Appreciate

A Great Majestic Family Range  
A National Process Gasoline Stove  
A Leonard Cleanable, Porcelain-Lined Solid Oak Refrigerator  
A Carving Set, Penknife or Razor  
A Winchester Shotgun or Rifle  
A King Air Rifle  
A Hunting Coat or Automatic Shell Vest

**HICKS HARDWARE CO.**

## 10,000 PEOPLE

—AT—

## MISSION

WITHIN THREE YEARS

## COME TO MISSION

And We Will Convince You

## Mission Land Improvement Company

## PATTERSON'S FURNISHING HOUSE FOR MEN

I will tonight say a word about  
**Underwear**

We have a complete assortment of the fleecy, warm underwear. It is not heavy, but of medium weight, and will keep you as warm as toast when the chill "norther" comes. All sizes.

**R. C. PATTERSON.**

Elizabeth Street

Brownsville

## CHAS. M. ARMSTRONG & COMPANY

LAND AND INVESTMENTS

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS

## 10,000,000 ACRES TEXAS AND MEXICO LANDS

SPECIALTIES

Irrigated farms and Colonization Tracts, in all sizes, large and small. Let us know what you want. We have it in any locality and can give the best prices. Write or call.

From curb to roof it will measure 416 feet. In building it will be used 14,000 tons of structural steel, 7,500,000 common bricks, 900,000 face bricks, 45,000 barrels of cement, 525,000 square feet of floor arches, 266,000 cubic feet of cluder

fill, 125,000 square feet of girder covering, 450,000 square feet of partition tile, 120,000 square feet of column covering 210,000 square feet of wall covering, and other articles too numerous to mention.

## "SHOOTERS" WON'T TELL WHO FIRED

WILL NOT DIVULGE NAMES OF MEN WHO SHOT UP TOWN.

### CORPORAL WEBSTER ON STAND

Can Furnish No Clue. Has No Recollection of Any Firing on That Eventful Night—Later Admitted First Shot Was Fired from Bakery in Fort.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The silent phalanx of negro soldiers who were at Brownsville still remains impenetrable. So far the Court of Inquiry which is investigating the shooting up of Brownsville have been unable to get any witnesses who would volunteer to appear before it with a view of getting a clear bill of reed, under the Foraker act, to divulge the names of soldiers said to have participated in the shooting.

Today, Corporal Webster, who was in charge of the guard house at the time of the shooting was on the stand.

Captain Harry Howland, recorder of the court, asked Webster whether he would tell the names of the men who were engaged in the shooting up of the town.

"Now, sir, I could not," was his reply.

"Can you furnish us any clue that will identify the men?" the Re-order asked.

"Now, sir."

"Do you know who returned the fire?"

"Now, sir, I don't know."

Webster did say, if he had testified on a previous occasion to the patrol being out at the time of the shooting that he swore falsely.

During the examination he said it appeared to him that the first shot came from the vicinity of a building to which he pointed on the map, and which proved to be the bakery in the fort.

### NEW MASONIC ORGANIZATIONS.

Royal Arch Chapter and Council of Select Masters Are Chartered.

The Masonic fraternity in Brownsville will very shortly organize a Royal Arch chapter and a council of Royal and Select Masters, charters for such bodies having been issued by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas respectively. The Royal Arch Chapter is chartered as No. 317, the following being named as its officers:

S. K. Hallam, 1<sup>st</sup> high priest.  
A. W. Cunningham, king.  
J. J. Cooke, scribe.

The council of Royal and Select Masters is chartered as No. 253, and the same as above are named as officers, with the titles respectively of three illustrious master, right illustrious master and right illustrious conductor of the work.

It is expected that the new lodges will be duly installed very shortly probably during Christmas week, when W. A. Scott, of Floresville, Texas, chairman of the committee on work the Royal Arch and Mr. Kidd three illustrious grand master of the Grand council of Royal and Select Masters, will visit Brownsville for that purpose.

### President's Nominations.

Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Taft today sent to the Senate the following nominations for ambassadors and ministers:

Robert Bacon, New York, Ambassador to France.

Richard Kerens, Missouri, ambassador to Austria-Hungary.

Henry Lane Wilson, Washington, ambassador to Mexico.

Chas. Page, Bryan, Ills., minister to Belgium.

Wm. James, Calhoun, Illinois, minister to China.

Henry Fletcher, Pennsylvania, minister to Chile.

Henry Gage, California, minister to Portugal.

R. S. Hitt, Illinois, minister to Panama.

John Jackson, New Jersey, minister to Cuba.

Fenton McCreery, Michigan, minister to Honduras.

Edwin Morgan, New York, minister to Paraguay.

Charles Russell, District of Columbia, minister to Persia.

Laurits Swensen, Minnesota, minister to Switzerland.

Horace Knowles, Delaware, minister and consul-general to Dominican republic.

## COOK DID NOT REACH NORTH POLE

DANISH WISE MEN ENTIRELY DISCREDIT HIS CLAIM.

### GREATEST FAKE LAID BARE

Careful Examination of Data By Committee and Consistory Fails to Sustain his Claim—Cook's Closest Friend Astounded at Apparent Fraud.

Associated Press.

Copenhagen, Dec. 21.—The University of Copenhagen, the first institution of learning to recognize Dr. Frederick Cook as the discoverer of the north pole, declared solemnly today that the explorer has failed to establish the claim upon which the high honors had been based.

The committee appointed by the university to examine Cook's papers recently reported its findings to the consistory, which reviewed the deductions of the experts with the greatest care and discussed the findings from every standpoint. That both committee and consistory agreed was soon discovered. The consistory met today and adopted a written report to the effect that the alleged records submitted for examination by Cook failed to prove his claim that he reached the north pole.

The documents handed to the commission of the University of Copenhagen for examination were: First, a typewritten report prepared by Cook's secretary, Walter Lonsdale, and covering 61 pages of foolscap; second, a typewritten copy made by Lonsdale from Cook's note books. This occupies 16 pages of foolscap and includes a description of the expedition during the period from March 18, 1898, to June 13, 1899, during which, according to his statement, Cook journeyed from Svartevog to the north pole and returned to a point on the polar ice not specifically indicated but west of Axel Heiberg land.

The report on the investigation was signed by all of the six members of the committee who were assisted in the inquiry by Knud Rasmussen, the explorer. The committee representing the University of Copenhagen in the examination was composed as follows: Prof. Stromgren, director of the astronomical observatory; Dr. Pechulis, astronomer attached to the observatory; Gustav Helm, explorer; Prof. Vonnson, president school navigation; Dr. Royder, director meteorological office and Dr. Engstrom director Land observatory.

### Dr. Cook's Mental Condition.

New York, Dec. 21.—"If the public knew the truth concerning Dr. Cook's mental and physical condition as it is known by his close friends they would take a charitable view of his present unfortunate situation," were the significant words today of Wellington Wack, counsel for Dr. Cook.

### Closest Friend Astounded.

New York, Dec. 21.—Charles Wake, Dr. Cook's closest personal friend and the only person besides the doctor's brother who knew the whereabouts of the explorer in the last few weeks was so dumbfounded when informed of the verdict reached by the University of Copenhagen, that he gasped for breath and dropped the telephone receiver.

Wake said: "Cook never expected this adverse decision. I know, for he always spoke with confidence that the Danish professors would decide that he had gone to the pole. At present I do not know what to think of my old friend, Dr. Cook. Certainly I never dreamed of such fraud as seems apparent now."

### SECRETARY OF WAR GOES TO PORTO RICO.

To Investigate Conditions With Regard to Extending Citizenship to Islanders.

Associated Press.

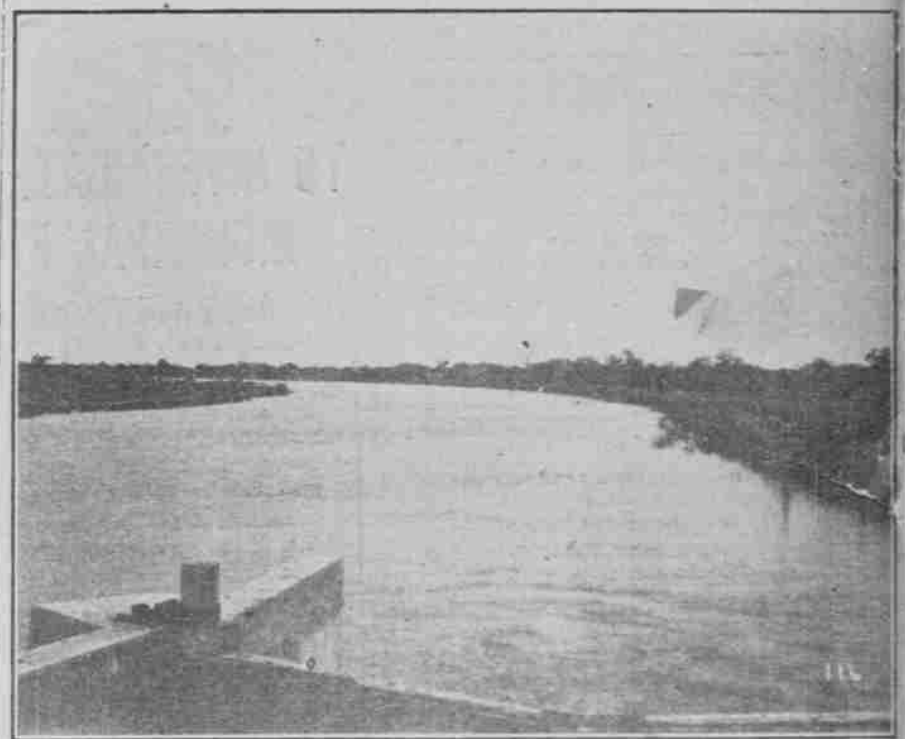
Washington, Dec. 21.—Secretary Dickinson sailed for Porto Rico this afternoon on the President's yacht Mayflower, to make an investigation of political conditions there, especially with regard to the extension of citizenship to Porto Ricans.

### LURTON ON SUPREME BENCH.

Nomination Was Confirmed Without Opposition.

Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Judge Horace Lurton today was confirmed as the senate as associate justice of the supreme court. No opposition appeared.



SAN BENITO CANAL—VIEW FROM LOCK No. 3

## SAN BENITO

The Busiest Place in the Valley

Nineteen miles north of Brownsville on the main line of the St. Louis, Brownsville & Mexico Railway.

**DON'T FAIL TO STOP AT SAN BENITO WHILE IN THE VALLEY.**

San Benito has the LARGEST CANAL in the State of Texas—the only gravity canal in the Valley.

Eight thousand acres of Growing Crops on the San Benito Tract. Thousands of acres being cleared.

The town of San Benito has a population of 1,500, good schools, churches, stores and permanent and expensive residences.

Write for ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET.

## SAN BENITO LAND & WATER CO.

SAN BENITO, TEXAS

ALBA HEYWOOD, President and General Manager

BROWNSVILLE OFFICE OPPOSITE THE MILLER HOTEL

\*\*\*\*\*  
Leveling, Subdividing, Lateral Building, Concrete Construction  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Two years First Asst. Eng. Panama Canal; four years Loc. Eng. Mex. and Central R. Mexico; nine years irrigation and general engineering work in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**J. A. CARD**  
Civil Engineer and Contractor  
\*\*\*\*\*  
My experience is of value to you. Engineering has been my life work. The information and knowledge I possess has been attained only by close study of conditions. If you want to know the best way to irrigate your land, I can tell you. Each piece of land needs to be irrigated and treated differently. Land varies—they slope in different directions, some portions are high, others low. You need the advice of an experienced and successful engineer to build your canals. These things I can positively do. You are not experimenting if I do the work. I have years of experience to back my claims. I am at your service. Harlingen, Texas.  
\*\*\*\*\*

## MISSION TOWNSITE CHANGES HANDS

V. L. AND C. P. HAGUE BUY KN. THE UNSOLD PORTION.

800 Acres Town Property in Deal. New Owners Plan Improvements on Large Scale, Including Light and Water and Big Hotel.

To The Herald.

Mission, Dec. 21.—Announcement was made here today of a deal involving the entire townsite of Mission, about 800 acres in all, which was closed ten days ago. The Mission Land Improvement Company has disposed of its interest in the townsite to Vernon L. Hague and Clarence P. Hague, both residents of this town for some months past.

The new owners are projecting improvements that will make Mission even more attractive than at present. Electric light and water works, a winter tourist hotel on a beautiful site overlooking the river, a first class newspaper and jobbing outfit, and other necessities for an up-to-date city are included in their plans.

Mission at present holds about 1500 people and the number is increasing rapidly. The value of property is rising apace with the growth of population. Since Dec. 10, when the deal was made, \$5000 worth of lots have been sold. V. L. Hague, who assisted in the establishment of the Mission bank early last summer, was formerly a banker in Chicago, while his brother was in the same business at Fairfield, Iowa. Both have had considerable experience in real estate and general promotion and command the capital necessary for the development of this proposition. They have unbounded faith in the future of this Valley, in general, and of Mission, in particular.

Local agencies for the sale of townsite lots will be established in

Brownsville, Houston, San Antonio and the principal cities of the north. C. P. Hague left for the north last Saturday to complete arrangements for the selling of the lots in that section.

## 40,000 WAIST MAKERS STRIKE

PROMINENT SOCIETY WOMEN AID AND ABET GIRLS.

J. Pierpont Morgan's Daughter and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont Stand by Strikers in Demand for Better Pay and Improved Conditions.

Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 20.—Miss Anne Morgan, the daughter of J. P. Morgan, and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, the mistress of millions, appeared today as duly authorized labor leaders, charged with the responsibility of 40,000 girl shirtwaist makers here striking in part at least the strike. A statement was given out to the public saying these society leaders would provide aid and legal defense for all members of the Union who may be arrested while doing picket duty, and will personally take up the work.

## DENY HARRY THAW'S PETITION. Prisoner Must Remain in Matteawan Asylum.

Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Justice McKenna of the Supreme Court of the United States today denied the petition of Harry Thaw for a writ of error to obtain release from the Matteawan asylum. In that case, the petition for a writ of habeas corpus will be denied and the effect of Justice McKenna's decision will be to leave the decision of the court of appeals undisturbed.